



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/719,017 | 11/24/2003 | Shuji Fujii | PRON: 002 | 9160 |
| 6160 | 7590 | 10/20/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P. | | | LEE, JINHEE J | |
| 1421 PRINCE STREET | | | | |
| SUITE 210 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-2805 | | | 2831 | |

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/719,017 | FUJII, SHUJI |
| | Examiner Jinhee J Lee | Art Unit 2831 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 4-10 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 4-10 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 0104.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings **must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims**. Therefore, the first and second rigid body of claim 6 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Applicant has argued that specification at page 10, line 18, describes a “rigid rectangular structure”. Examiner disagrees that statement in the specification pointed out by the applicant which states “the strength is increased by a combination structure of a rigid rectangular structure in the present invention”, clearly points out which portion of the polymer insulator (as stated in amended claim 6) is the first or second rigid body.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

2. Applicant is required to submit a proposed drawing correction in reply to this Office action. However, formal correction of the noted defect may be deferred until after the examiner has considered the proposed drawing correction. Failure to timely submit the proposed drawing correction will result in the abandonment of the application.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 7 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 7 line 2-3, change "said first end connection and said second end connection each comprise" to "said connecting of the first end and said connecting of the second end, each comprise" in order to avoid indefinite rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. Regarding claim 5, the phrase "such that" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 4-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Paw et al. (US005821486A).

Re claim 4, Paw et al. discloses a polymer insulator apparatus comprising a rectangular structure comprising plural polymer post insulators (30 and 18), a supporting structure (20) and a plate member (lower part of 24), wherein a first end of each polymer post insulator is connected to said supporting structure, and a second end of each said polymer post insulators is connected to said plate member, (see figures 1 and 2).

Re claim 5, Paw et al. discloses a method for mounting plural polymer post insulators on a supporting structure, comprising: providing a supporting structure (20)

and plural polymer post insulators (18, 30); connecting a first end of each said plural polymer post insulator to the supporting structure; and connecting a second end of each said plural polymer post insulator such that said plural polymer post insulators are parallel to each other and normal to the supporting structure (see figures 1 and 2).

Re claim 6, Paw et al. discloses a method wherein said first end of each said polymer post insulator is connected to said supporting structure by a first rigid body (unnumbered, bottom part of 18, 30 for example) comprising a part of said polymer post insulator, and said second end of each said polymer post insulator is connected to a plate member by a second rigid body (unnumbered, top part of 18 or 30 for example) comprising a part of said polymer post insulator (see figures 1 and 2).

Re claim 7, Paw et al. discloses a method wherein said connecting of the first end and said connecting of the second end, each comprise a rigid connection (see figures 1 and 2).

Re claim 8, Paw et al. discloses a method wherein when an axial direction along a length of each said plural polymer post insulator is substantially a horizontal direction and an axial direction along a length of said supporting structure is substantially a vertical direction, then said plural polymer post insulators are for supporting a weight of a load acting in the vertical direction (see figures 1 and 2).

Re claim 9, Paw et al. discloses a polymer insulator apparatus wherein said supporting structure is configured for operating with an electric power transmission line (see column 1 lines 6-8 according to the numbering in the middle).

Re claim 10, Paw et al. discloses a method wherein said supporting structure is configured for operating with an electric power transmission line (see column 1 lines 6-8 according to the numbering in the middle).

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 4-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinhee J Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-1977. The examiner can normally be reached on M, T, Th and F at 6:30AM-5PM.

Art Unit: 2831

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean A Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

jjl

Dean A. Reichard 10/18/04
DEAN A. REICHARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800